

PAULTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on

Tuesday 20th January 2026 at 7.00pm held in the Village Hall, Paulton.

PRESENT Councillors, Bancroft, Breeze-Crow, Ford, Hardman, Johnson (Chairman), Kilburn, Lyons, Newton, Norman, Pitt, Stevens and Wild.

IN ATTENDANCE Helen Jenkins (Clerk)
Two members of the public were in attendance.

Minutes

26-1- APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies received from Cllr Paul.

26-2- PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no members of the public present.

26-3- DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To receive any Declarations of Interest, including Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPI) on the agenda under Paulton Parish Council's Code of Conduct (adopted on 30th November 2021) issued in accordance with the Localism Act 2011 and The Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012, SI No. 1464.

Cllr Norman for any item regarding Books & Cooks, Cllrs Breeze-Crow and Johnson for the Royal British Legion plaque.

26-4 – FUTURE OF THE CAFÉ

Standing Orders suspended 7:09pm

Standing Orders reinstated 7:47

The discussion concentrated on possibilities for the café as a separate entity after 31st March 2026 when the Parish Council will no longer be running the café. The best option is for a community led set up as a charity or Community Interest Company (CIC). The Working Group will investigate the different options and will report back at the next meeting in February 2026.

26-5 - CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

That the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 18th and 25th November 2025 and 16th December 2025 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

Resolved to approve the minutes of the meetings held on 18th and 25th November and 16th December 2025 signed by the Chairman.

26-6 – CHAIRS REPORT

No report for this month.

26-7 – CLERKS REPORT

The budget process for 2026/2027 continued to enable the budget to be agreed later in the meeting. The Clerk reported that there had been changes of solicitors for both the Council and tenants for the Wooden Classroom. The lease should be nearing completion for both parties.

26-8 – FINANCES

Noted the reports which will be part of the budget discussion.

26-9 – FINALISE BUDGET FOR 2026/2027

Resolved that the budget for 2026/27 will be £373,792 with a Precept Achieved of £351,633.89 and a percentage increase of 4.74%.

26-10 – METAL SILHOUETTE STATUES AT THE WAR MEMORIAL

Resolved to give the silhouette statues to the Royal British Legion (RBL).

26-11 – NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Agreed to leave this until work has been carried and return to the Council when any decisions are required.

26-12 – STREET LIGHTING

Resolved to replace the lamps that the Parish Council are responsible for.

26-13 – RELOCATION OF ROYAL BRITISH LEGION PLAQUE

Resolved that the RBL plaque for Paulton branch be returned to the branch.

26-14 – CALL FOR SITES FOR GYPSY AND TRAVELLER PITCHES (GTAA)

Noted that Paulton Parish does not have any land that it could put forward for this request.

26-15 – WASTE BINS

Resolved to add signage to areas where fly tipping is occurring.

26-16 - PAULTON COMMUNITY WEBSITE

Resolved to make a small grant to cover the costs of hosting the website.

26-17 – SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS FOR 2026/2027

Noted.

26-18 - EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

That pursuant to the provision of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business by reason of the confidential nature of business to be transacted - Legal privilege.

26-19 - FINANCING OF THE CAFÉ

Resolved that the Parish Council will not be responsible for the running of the café after 31st March 2026 but that it will assist a community lead entity should one be set up and operational from 1st April 2026.

26-20 – DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next scheduled meeting of the Parish Council is on **Tuesday 17th February 2026 at 7.00pm.**

Meeting closed at 9:04pm

Signed.....
(Chairman)

Date.....